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POETRY: *A Magazine of Verse*

Old red rice can satisfy hunger,
And poor people can buy muddy, unstrained wine
On credit.
But the pile of land-tax bills
Is growing;
I will go over and see my neighbor,
Leaning on my staff.

Li Hai-ku—Nineteenth Century

THE INN AT THE WESTERN LAKE

The inn leans against the mountain's root.
The smooth skin of the water shines,
And the clouds slip over the sky.
This is the twilight of dawn and dusk.
On the top of Hsi Lung
The hill priest sits in the evening
And meditates.
Two—
Two—
Those are the lights of fishing-boats
Arriving at the door.

Wang Ching-seng—Nineteenth Century

*Translated by Florence Ayscough
English version by Amy Lowell*